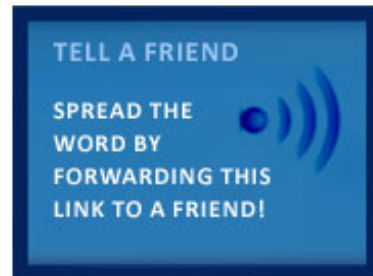




## The First 100 Days

As the grandson of a coal miner, steel worker, and carpenter, I am humbled and honored to serve the people of the 16th Congressional District. Upon the completion of these first 100 days of Congress, we reflect on the progress we have made to rebuild our country but also realize the great responsibility before us to put our nation back on the path to prosperity.



I know working families in Ohio and across the nation are struggling. I firmly believe that history will judge this Congress by whether we took quick action to begin ending this recession, or whether we stood on the sidelines and pointed partisan fingers at one another while failing to take any action at all.



*John Boccieri talks to a constituent  
at Davie's Pharmacy in Canton*

That is why it is important for me and my staff to meet with you, sit down, and share ideas in order to rebuild our part of Ohio and our nation for a better future. We are traveling throughout the district to tour local learn about how we can better serve you. In the past 100 days, we have visited nearly 30 businesses, held four Congress on Your Corner events across the district, a 2,000 person district-wide teletownhall and various

discussions with our district's university and college presidents, health care professionals, veterans, seniors and farmers.

We as Ohioans know far too well that our state and country face great economic challenges. I've seen the toll our economy is taking on businesses and workers all across the district. The folks at Sare Plastics in Alliance recently showed me how they produce custom plastic injection moldings for use in automotive, outdoor residential, and household products. They are full of ideas and ingenuity, but faced with the challenge of bringing products to market. This company, similar to other manufacturing companies like Tekfor and Will-Burt in Wooster are just a few examples of innovative local

businesses right here in our district that we should support and encourage. We have a responsibility to do all we can to help foster their creative ideas to keep our best and brightest minds here at home.

I am working to do just that with bipartisan legislation I introduced with New York Representative Chris Lee that would make the research and development tax credit permanent and further reward companies with additional R&D tax credits if they manufacture their products here in the U.S. This legislation provides incentives to companies to not only create and keep jobs here at home but also reward them for keeping our brightest minds hard at work right here in our country.

Because our district has what it takes to be a major force in the greening of our nation, we also have a responsibility to promote the groundbreaking research in alternative energy systems that is taking place right in our back yard. I recently toured the innovative Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center's Schmack Bioenergy in Wooster. They are researching methane digesters that combine animal waste and compost to produce energy. OARDC is truly researching ideas of the future. We must invest in these ideas that will surely help to reshape our future.

In these first 100 days Congress worked to pass the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery package invests in our people, our country, and our future. I voted to support this legislation that will help rebuild our nation by creating good-paying jobs, make us more globally competitive, and transform our economy for long-term growth. The economic recovery plan is the first crucial step in a concerted effort to create and save three to four million jobs, jumpstart our nation's economy, and transform it for the 21st century.



*John Bocchieri at Ashland High School*

In our current economic situation, it is critical that we ensure everyone has access to quality, affordable health care, especially our nation's children. Already we insured more than 11 million children nationwide and more than 119,000 in Ohio through the State Children's Health Insurance Program. Covering kids is not only the right thing to do; it's much more cost-effective for taxpayers than using the emergency room as a primary care provider. But we have much more to do. That is why I am listening to the concerns of doctors, patients and others in the health care industry. I have already convened health care reform roundtables at Mercy Medical Center and Alliance Community Hospital and plan to host additional roundtables across the district because I need to know your thoughts and suggestions for making our health care system stronger as we prepare to take up legislation in Congress to do just that.

To successfully rebuild our economy, we must address the crisis in our housing market. In our district alone, more than 6400 homeowners filed for foreclosure last year. We know that the housing market has pulled us out of previous recessions and that is why we are currently working to restore faith in the market. The House passed a bill earlier this year that would give necessary tools to responsible homeowners to avoid foreclosure. That bill is now being debated in the Senate.

In this current financial environment, however, I will not stand for corporate executives taking big bonuses on the backs of taxpayers. Thousands of constituents, through Congress on Your Corner events, phone calls, letters, teletownhalls, and e-mails, expressed to me their disgust with million-dollar bonuses to CEOs who made poor financial decisions. That is why I voted to restrict executive compensation and bonuses at companies that receive bailout funds. I also departed from my leadership and voted against the second release of the bailout funds for banks. As long as taxpayers support banks, auto companies, and others, their CEOs do not deserve rewards for their risky business practices.

We are rolling up our sleeves here in Washington and in the past 100 days we have worked across party lines to get our economy back on track, cut taxes, create jobs, and invest in American priorities. However, we have much work to do and many challenges await us. But together, I am confident we will work to put our nation back on the path to prosperity.

John Bocchieri

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